

A. List of Restoration Activities

The San Bernardino National Forest (SBNF) ecological restoration program and native plant nursery has restored hundreds of acres of degraded forest lands over the past decade. In recent years, large scale off highway vehicle related restoration projects, such as Baldy Mesa, Cactus Flats Staging Area, and the Mountaintop Restoration project have been implemented in part through State OHV funding. As we move toward future restoration projects, it has become apparent that previous projects need to be constantly patrolled, monitored and maintained to protect and avoid further degradation of these sites. This project is designed to protect recent restoration measures on the Mountaintop and Front Country Districts of the SBNF.

The forest recently completed restoration of approximately 17 miles of unauthorized routes at Baldy Mesa, utilizing a combination of methods including fencing, ripping and chunking, mulching, seeding and planting. Although the project has been extremely successful, the unique urban interface in this area allows a constant barrage of unlawful off highway users. Constant monitoring, fence mending, supplemental planting and closure of new trail starts are necessary to protect seeded areas and newly planted native vegetation. Patrol efforts have been increased with the use of volunteers such as the San Bernardino National Forest Association, but additional staff specialist input and action is necessary to ensure long-term success.

The Mountaintop District has recently restored over 15 miles of unauthorized off highway vehicle routes using a combination OHV Trust Fund and forest recreation fee funding. Main areas of restoration include Cactus Flats, Big Pine Flats and Holcomb Valley, all popular OHV use areas. All of the unauthorized routes restored during this project and identified to be monitored and maintained are in direct conflict with Threatened, Endangered, and Sensitive (TES) species habitat and/or cultural sites, are directly adjacent to designated routes, and have a primary cause of degradation from OHV users.

This project will provide forest staff and materials necessary for supplemental planting, seeding, slashing, fence mending, patrol coordination, and supplemental heritage and biologist surveys needed to monitor and protect past restoration sites. The project will be implemented through continued partnerships with the SBNF Children's Forest, The Urban Youth Core (Bobby Vega Foundation), Americorps, California State University San Bernardino and various local citizens.

The combined project areas to be protected and maintained include potential habitat for 140 TES wildlife species (including 6 federally endangered, 2 threatened species, 25 sensitive, and 101 watch list species) and 92 TES plant species (including 7 federally endangered, 5 federally threatened, 50 sensitive, and 30 watch list species.) See the attached HMP as part of this application for detailed listings of special status species and habitats to be protected by this project.

B. How the Proposed Project Relates to OHV Recreation

Two major restoration projects have been completed over the past three years to close and protect over 30 miles of unauthorized OHV routes on the Front Country and Mountaintop Districts of the forest. These projects were implemented to protect TES and other special status species and habitats occurring in close proximity to legally designated OHV routes. Unauthorized use stemming from these designated routes was causing unacceptable impacts to known TES species habitat and, in the case of Baldy Mesa and Holcomb Valley, known archaeological sites.

Continued monitoring, maintenance and protection of these sites is necessary to ensure their successful revegetation, in turn preventing additional negative impacts to special status species habitat and cultural resources. As these impacts are directly related to OHV use, albeit illegal, Forest Land Management Plan monitoring protocols require that these impacts be mitigated. If not mitigated, then the area(s) must be closed, temporarily or permanently, to OHV use, to allow the area(s) to recover to their natural state. Failure to protect these restoration sites could result in loss of legal OHV opportunity as negative impacts continue to occur in these locations.

C. Size of Project Site

This project will provide for the monitoring, maintenance and protection of approximately 32 miles of unauthorized OHV

routes which have been recently restored. Assuming an approximate average width of 50", the project will provide for the immediate protection of approximately 16.3 acres of recently restored special status species habitat, and indirectly protect several hundred more acres.

D. Monitoring and Methodology

The attached HMP, as part of this application, describes the forest's protocol for restoration site monitoring. The included table, Restoration Monitoring Sites for Fiscal Year 2009 lists the forest's current restoration sites, all of which are monitored annually. Habitat and restoration monitoring is conducted by the forest's restoration team, primarily botanists and wildlife biologists, using a standardized Restoration Monitoring Form.

These sites will remain active on this list until the determination is made that restoration activities in the specified area have been fully successful, and additional site-specific monitoring is no longer needed. In addition to annual monitoring, the new restoration sites will also be monitored, weeded and maintained primarily by the Green Thumb Volunteers, as often as twice a month during the growing season until established, which typically takes two to three years.

Overall, success criteria can be defined by the following statements. Restoration activities will be deemed successful if:

- 1) user traffic stays within the defined tread of adjacent designated routes and no off-route impacts are identified within restoration sites, and
- 2) survival rate among plantings is high, and
- 3) natural vegetative recruitment appears to be successful.

This project will provide the staff and materials necessary to provide additional site specific monitoring, as often as monthly in high traffic areas, to ensure the success of past restoration projects.

E. List of Reports

F. Goals, Objectives and Methodology / Peer Reviews

G. Plan for Protection of Restored Area

Law Enforcement – Both Ranger Districts have a Forest Protection Officer (FPO) assigned full-time to OHV patrol. This District FPO works closely with resource and restoration staff to stay informed of restoration activities and adjusts work schedule and location of patrol when necessary to prevent trespass and damage in newly restored areas. District FPOs work predominantly weekend schedules to provide greater presence during peak times of use. Resources staff who monitor the restoration projects are also FPO certified and enforce off-route travel, trespass and resource damage laws while in the field.

Site specific planning – Each specific route restored during previous projects was selected through site specific analysis completed prior to ground disturbing activities. Surrounding areas were surveyed for botanical, biological and cultural resources to ensure that no resources were negatively impacted during restoration activity. Routes were analyzed for 'likelihood of success', based on location, ease of disguise, potential for entrance barriers, etc. Only those routes deemed likely for success were restored and later included in this monitoring and protection project.

Barriers and traffic control devices – Fencing will be maintained where slashing and disguising of restored routes has not been effective. In areas where illegal use continues to occur, and additional ground disturbance will not further damage resources, 'chunking' of the unauthorized trail tread will include the construction of berms or earthen mounds to disguise the restored route and prevent access into the restoration area.

Native plants and materials – This project will use seeds and native plant species provided by the forest nursery and greenhouse. Seeds will be collected from native species immediately surrounding the project area. Some of these seeds will be cultivated into mature plants for direct transplant into restored areas while others will be kept for dispersal in areas where soil has been loosened to promote 'natural' re-vegetation throughout the restoration area. Propagation and maintenance of a natural mix of native vegetation will help eliminate the appearance of a 'trail' where restoration work has

been completed.

Educational signage – Past projects have included the installation of up to 150 signs adjacent restoration sites. These signs include language stating, 'Closed to Motorized Travel Year-Round to Protect Wildlife Habitat Area. Your Cooperation Will Be Appreciated. For More Information, Contact the US Forest Service Ranger District.' These signs will be maintained and replaced as necessary as part of this project.

Incorporation of alternate routes – The routes restored through past projects were selected due to their potential impact to special status species and their proximity to legally designated OHV routes. Through the use of increased patrol, increased monitoring and educational signage described above, users will be informed of the restoration activities and directed toward legal OHV opportunities in the surrounding area.

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY:

Version # _____

APP # 700139

1. Project-Specific Maps

Attachments:

[Map of current restoration areas on Mtn Top RD](#)

[Map of current restoration areas on Front Country \(Baldy Mesa\)](#)

[Map of restoration areas at Cactus Flats of the MTRD](#)

[Map of restoration sites at Holcomb Valley of the MTRD](#)

2. Project-Specific Photos

Attachments:

[Photo of tire tracks in restoration site](#)

[Photo of restoration site watering/maintenance](#)

[Photo of planting restoration site](#)

[Photo of follow up planting restoration site](#)

[Photos of before and after planting](#)

Project Cost Estimate for Grants and Cooperative Agreements Program - 2008/2009
Agency: USFS - San Bernardino National Forest
Application: Restoration Site Monitoring

6/2/2009

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY:		Version # _____	APP # _____
APPLICANT NAME :	USFS - San Bernardino National Forest		
PROJECT TITLE :	Restoration Site Monitoring	PROJECT NUMBER (Division use only) :	
PROJECT TYPE :	<input type="checkbox"/> Acquisition <input type="checkbox"/> Development <input type="checkbox"/> Education & Safety <input type="checkbox"/> Ground Operations <input type="checkbox"/> Law Enforcement <input type="checkbox"/> Planning <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restoration		
PROJECT DESCRIPTION :	<p>The San Bernardino National Forest (SBNF) ecological restoration program and native plant nursery has restored hundreds of acres of degraded forest lands over the past decade. In recent years, large scale off highway vehicle related restoration projects, such as Baldy Mesa, Cactus Flats Staging Area, and the Mountaintop Restoration project have been implemented in part through State OHV funding. As we move toward future restoration projects, it has become apparent that previous projects need to be constantly patrolled, monitored and maintained to protect and avoid further degradation of these sites. This project is designed to protect recent restoration measures on the Mountaintop and Front Country Districts of the SBNF.</p> <p>The forest recently completed restoration of approximately 17 miles of unauthorized routes at Baldy Mesa, utilizing a combination of methods including fencing, ripping and chunking, mulching, seeding and planting. Although the project has been extremely successful, the unique urban interface in this area allows a constant barrage of unlawful off highway users. Constant monitoring, fence mending, supplemental planting and closure of new trail starts are necessary to protect seeded areas and newly planted native vegetation. Patrol efforts have been increased with the use of volunteers such as the San Bernardino National Forest Association, but additional staff specialist input and action is necessary to ensure long-term success.</p> <p>The Mountaintop District has recently restored over 15 miles of unauthorized off highway vehicle routes using a combination OHV Trust Fund and forest recreation fee funding. Main areas of restoration include Cactus Flats, Big Pine Flats and Holcomb Valley, all popular OHV use areas. All of the unauthorized routes restored during this project and identified to be monitored and maintained are in direct conflict with Threatened, Endangered, and Sensitive (TES) species habitat and/or cultural sites, are directly adjacent to designated routes, and have a primary cause of degradation from OHV users.</p> <p>This project will provide forest staff and materials necessary for supplemental planting, seeding, slashing, fence mending, patrol coordination, and supplemental heritage and biologist surveys needed to monitor and protect past restoration sites. The project will be implemented through continued partnerships with the SBNF Children's Forest, The Urban Youth Core (Bobby Vega Foundation), Americorps, California State University San Bernardino and various local citizens.</p> <p>The combined project areas to be protected and maintained include potential habitat for 140 TES wildlife species (including 6 federally endangered, 2 threatened species, 25 sensitive, and 101 watch list species) and 92 TES plant species (including 7 federally endangered, 5 federally threatened, 50 sensitive, and 30 watch list species.) See the attached HMP as part of this application for detailed listings of special status species and habitats to be protected by this project.</p>		

	Line Item	Qty	Rate	UOM	Grant Request	Match	Total
DIRECT EXPENSES							
Program Expenses							
1	Staff						
	Archeologist	5.000	351.000	DAY	1,755.00	0.00	1,755.00

Project Cost Estimate for Grants and Cooperative Agreements Program - 2008/2009
Agency: USFS - San Bernardino National Forest
Application: Restoration Site Monitoring

6/2/2009

	Line Item	Qty	Rate	UOM	Grant Request	Match	Total
	Notes : Doan - FC Arco						
	Botanist Notes : Elliott - bot/bio	180.000	184.000	DAY	33,120.00	0.00	33,120.00
	Botanist Notes : Goss - bot/bio monitor	60.000	126.000	DAY	7,560.00	0.00	7,560.00
	Ecologist Notes : Kopp - Project Manager	5.000	392.000	DAY	1,960.00	0.00	1,960.00
	Archeologist Notes : McKay - MT Arco	5.000	367.000	DAY	1,835.00	0.00	1,835.00
	Ecologist Notes : Meyer - Wildlife	3.000	352.000	DAY	1,056.00	0.00	1,056.00
	Botanist Notes : Nelson - Bot monitor	5.000	236.000	DAY	1,180.00	0.00	1,180.00
	Archeologist Notes : Sibley - FC Arco	5.000	248.000	DAY	1,240.00	0.00	1,240.00
	Ecologist Notes : Stamer - Restoration Biologist	40.000	305.000	DAY	12,200.00	0.00	12,200.00
	Other-Volunteer labor	2000.000	17.000	HRS	0.00	34,000.00	34,000.00
	Total for Staff				61,906.00	34,000.00	95,906.00
2	Contracts						
3	Materials / Supplies						
	Fencing Cable	1.000	3000.000	YR	3,000.00	0.00	3,000.00
	Signs	1.000	1000.000	YR	1,000.00	0.00	1,000.00
	Total for Materials / Supplies				4,000.00	0.00	4,000.00
4	Equipment Use Expenses						

Project Cost Estimate for Grants and Cooperative Agreements Program - 2008/2009
Agency: USFS - San Bernardino National Forest
Application: Restoration Site Monitoring

6/2/2009

	Line Item	Qty	Rate	UOM	Grant Request	Match	Total
	4x4 Vehicle	12.000	305.000	MOS	0.00	3,660.00	3,660.00
	4x4 Vehicle	3000.000	0.370	MI	0.00	1,110.00	1,110.00
	Total for Equipment Use Expenses				0.00	4,770.00	4,770.00
5	Equipment Purchases						
6	Others						
7	Administrative Costs						
Total Program Expenses					65,906.00	38,770.00	104,676.00
TOTAL DIRECT EXPENSES					65,906.00	38,770.00	104,676.00
TOTAL EXPENDITURES					65,906.00	38,770.00	104,676.00

Project Cost Summary for Grants and Cooperative Agreements Program - 2008/2009
Agency: USFS - San Bernardino National Forest
Application: Restoration Site Monitoring

6/2/2009

	Line Item	Grant Request	Match	Total	Narrative
DIRECT EXPENSES					
Program Expenses					
1	Staff	61,906.00	34,000.00	95,906.00	
2	Contracts	0.00	0.00	0.00	
3	Materials / Supplies	4,000.00	0.00	4,000.00	
4	Equipment Use Expenses	0.00	4,770.00	4,770.00	
5	Equipment Purchases	0.00	0.00	0.00	
6	Others	0.00	0.00	0.00	
7	Administrative Costs	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Total Program Expenses		65,906.00	38,770.00	104,676.00	
TOTAL DIRECT EXPENSES		65,906.00	38,770.00	104,676.00	
TOTAL EXPENDITURES		65,906.00	38,770.00	104,676.00	

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY:

Version # _____

APP # 700139

ITEM 1 and ITEM 2

ITEM 1

- a. ITEM 1 - Has a CEQA Notice of Determination (NOD) been filed for the Project? ☐ Yes ☒ No
(Please select Yes or No)

ITEM 2

- b. ITEM 2 - Are the proposed activities a "Project" under CEQA Guidelines Section 15378? ☒ Yes ☐ No
(Please select Yes or No)
- c. The Application is requesting funds solely for personnel and support to enforce OHV laws and ensure public safety. These activities would not cause any physical impacts on the environment and are thus not a "Project" under CEQA. (Please select Yes or No) ☐ Yes ☒ No
- d. Other. Explain why proposed activities would not cause any physical impacts on the environment and are thus not a "Project" under CEQA. DO NOT complete ITEMS 3 – 9

ITEM 3 - Impact of this Project on Wetlands

Refer to Wildlife Habitat Protection Program (WHPP), Section I Introduction, for discussion regarding the Forest's efforts to provide OHV opportunity, protect TE&S species, and the effects of the OHV program on riparian areas. OHV program management activities, including restoration, are not creating adverse impacts to wetlands, navigable waters and/or sensitive habitats. Restoration activities are designed to improve adjacent riparian areas and TE&S habitat under guidance from the Forest Land Management Plan and consultation with the USFWS (when appropriate). Replacing barren soil (stemming from unauthorized routes) with aesthetically pleasing native vegetation, through past restoration projects, provides forage and shelter for neighboring wildlife communities, reduces habitat fragmentation, and helps reduce erosion and sediment loading into adjacent watersheds. This project will provide for the routine monitoring of previously restored areas, and the maintenance and repair of additional impacts when discovered. The Mountaintop District hosts 8 federally endangered, 4 federally threatened, 49 federally sensitive, and 25 species of local concern (watch list). This restoration site monitoring and maintenance project is designed to avoid any adverse effects on these species and to protect recently restored habitat for them. The attached WHPP table 4 identifies adaptive management techniques implemented to protect TES species, while table 7 describes specific management actions implemented in response to monitoring results.

ITEM 4 - Cumulative Impacts of this Project

This project is being conducted under the attached, 'Decision Memo for Habitat Protection.' Please refer to the Environmental Consequences section for discussion on cumulative impacts. Restoration activities on the Forest, like trail maintenance activities, will be of 'limited size, duration, and degree of disturbance' and would provide for long term beneficial effects to neighboring wildlife communities. There will be no adverse nor cumulative effects associated with these restoration activities.

ITEM 5 - Soil Impacts

Refer to the Soil Conservation Plan, as part of this application, for relevant discussion regarding the effects that OHV management activities are having and the measures being employed to protect soils on steep slopes. Ground disturbance associated with restoration is conducted in accordance with BMPs found in 'Water Quality Management for Forest System Lands in California, Best Management Practices', and also utilize guidelines in the technical paper "A Field Evaluation of the Use of Small Trail Tractors to Maintain and Construct OHV Trails on National Forests in California". Restoration staff work with a forest hydrologist and soil scientists to minimize soil loss during and following all restoration activities. Restoration efforts, including planting of native vegetation, direct seeding, physical contouring and straw waddling are all implemented to minimize erosion on steep slopes and to protect against the loss of highly erosive soils.

ITEM 6 - Damage to Scenic Resources

The Forest has four designated State Scenic Highways. OHV use is limited to a system of designated roads, trails and facilities, none of which is impacting the view shed of a State Scenic Highway. Activities describes specifically within this restoration application will provide for the maintenance and repair of previously visible evidence of unauthorized OHV use. Any impact to scenic resources will be beneficial.

ITEM 7 - Hazardous Materials

Is the proposed Project Area located on a site included on any list compiled pursuant to Section 65962.5 of the California Government Code (hazardous materials)? (Please select Yes or No) ☐ Yes ☒ No

If YES, describe the location of the hazard relative to the Project site, the level of hazard and the measures to be taken to minimize or avoid the hazards.

ITEM 8 - Potential for Adverse Impacts to Historical or Cultural Resources

Would the proposed Project have potential for any substantial adverse impacts to historical or cultural resources? (Please select Yes or No) ☐ Yes ☒ No

If YES, describe the potential impacts and for any substantially adverse changes in the significance of historical or cultural resources and measures to be taken to minimize or avoid the impacts.

ITEM 9 - Indirect Significant Impacts

Restoration activities described in this application are focused on protecting and maintaining recently restored sensitive habitat which will improve the user experience by maintaining natural aesthetics of adjacent high use areas. Restoration activities, potentially causing temporary visitor use displacement, will be conducted during limited operating periods to avoid public inconvenience and will have little to no effect on authorized public use. These activities will have no long term effect on the designated OHV system of the forest. They will result in no new closures or restrictions, no new development or any other conditions which would redirect authorized use or cause off-site impacts. Increased patrol and monitoring of restoration sites identified herein should reduce unauthorized use in the vicinity of the project and further limit off-site impacts.

CEQA/NEPA Attachment

Attachments:

[CE for Mountaintop Restoration](#)
[CE for Front Country Restoration](#)

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY:

Version # _____

APP # 700139

1. Project Cost Estimate - Q 1. (Auto populates from Cost Estimate)

1. As calculated on the Project Cost Estimate, the percentage of the Project costs covered by the Applicant is: 3

(Check the one most appropriate) (Please select one from list)

- ☐ 76% or more (10 points)
☐ 51% - 75% (5 points)
☒ 26% - 50% (3 points)
☐ 25% (Match minimum) (No points)

2. Natural and Cultural Resources - Q 2.

2. Natural and Cultural Resources - Failure to fund the Project will result in adverse impacts to: 20

(Check all that apply) (Please select applicable values)

- ☐ Domestic water supply (4 points)
☒ Archeological and historical resources identified in the California Register of Historical Resources or the Federal Register of Historic Places (3 points)
☐ Stream or other watercourse (3 points)
☒ Soils - Site actively eroding (2 points)
☒ Sensitive areas (e.g., wilderness, riparian, wetlands, ACEC) (2 point each, up to a maximum of 6) Enter number of sensitive habitats [3]
☒ Threatened and Endangered (T&E) listed species (2 point each, up to a maximum of 6) Enter number of T&E species [20]
☒ Other special-status species- Number of special-status species (1 point each, up to a maximum of 3) Enter number of special-status species [75]

Describe the type and severity of impacts that might occur relative to the checked item(s):

The areas to be protected and maintained include potential habitat for 140 TES wildlife species (including 6 federally endangered, 2 threatened species, 25 sensitive, and 101 watch list species) and 92 TES plant species (including 7 federally endangered, 5 federally threatened, 50 sensitive, and 30 watch list species.) See WHPP/HMP as part of this application for detailed listings of special status species and habitats to be protected by this project. The Baldy Mesa area, also to be protected by this project, is known to be one of the richest in archeological and historical resources on the San Bernardino National Forest. The Forest has recently completed archeological site test excavations in the Baldy Mesa area for determination of possible eligibility for the National Register of Historic Places. Of the sites excavated, four have been identified as eligible.

Failure to protect these existing restoration sites will allow continued impacts to known TES species and important archaeological resources.

3. Reason for Project - Q 3.

3. Reason for the Project 4

(Check the one most appropriate) (Please select one from list)

- ☒ Protect special-status species or cultural site (4 points)
☐ Restore natural resource system damaged by OHV activity (4 points)
☐ OHV activity in a closed area (3 points)
☐ Alternative measures attempted, but failed (2 points)
☐ Management decision (1 point)
☐ Scientific and cultural studies (1 point)
☐ Planning efforts associated with Restoration (1 point)

Reference Document

Forest WHPP/HMP, tables I and II

Forest Land Management Plan

S34: Where a threatened, endangered, proposed, candidate, or sensitive species occurs in a recreation site or area, take steps to avoid or minimize negative impacts to the threatened, endangered, proposed, candidate or sensitive species and its habitat. Use the least restrictive action that will effectively mitigate adverse impacts to the species and habitat (refer to Appendix D).

S50: Mitigate negative long-term impacts from recreation use to soil, watershed, riparian or heritage resources. (refer to Appendix D- Adaptive management for Recreation uses.)

4. Measures to Ensure Success - Q 4.

4. Measures to ensure success –The Project makes use of the following elements to ensure successful implementation 10

(Check all that apply) Scoring: 2 points each (Please select applicable values)

- ☒ Site monitoring to prevent additional damage
- ☒ Construction of barriers and other traffic control devices
- ☒ Use of native plants and materials
- ☒ Incorporation of universally recognized 'Best Management Practices'
- ☒ Educational signage
- ☐ Identification of alternate OHV routes to ensure that OHV activities will not reoccur in restored area

Explain each item checked above:

The project will maintain physically restored areas through seeding and planting of native species vegetation. Fencing will be maintained to direct users along designated routes and away from the restoration site. Signs will be maintained to educate users about restoration activities.

The forest also implements best management practices (BMPs) from 'Water Quality Management for Forest System Lands in California, Best Management Practices', including the following:

BMP 2-26, Obliteration or Decommissioning of Roads

BMP 2-28, Surface Erosion Control at Facility Sites

BMP 4-7(b4, b5, b6), Water Quality Monitoring of OHV Use According to a Developed Plan

BMP 5-1, Soil Disturbing Treatments (limits of)

BMP 5-4, Revegetation of Surface Disturbed Areas

BMP 5-6, Soil Moisture Limitations for Mechanical Equipment Operations

The sites will be monitored monthly during the growing season, and added to the WHPP/HMP restoration monitoring program until deemed successful.

5. Publicly Reviewed Plan - Q 5.

5. Is there a publicly reviewed and adopted plan (e.g., wilderness designation, land management plans, route designation decisions) that supports the need for the Restoration Project? 5

(Check the one most appropriate) (Please select one from list)

☐ No (No points)

☒ Yes (5 points)

Identify plan

One of the 12 SBNF's Forest Plan goals is Goal 3.1- Provide for public use and natural resource protection.

The desired conditons for OHV use is:

Off-highway vehicle (OHV) systems provide a range of recreation opportunities, and challenges for OHV enthusiasts through the development of an integrated system of trails and low maintenance standard roads. OHV use is occurring on designated roads and trails only. High-use areas are managed within capacities in order to maintain the quality of experiences. Facilities that provide access to the OHV system are developed in conjunction with the development of the overall OHV system. Conflicts between OHV enthusiasts and other recreationists with private lands, and homeowners adjacent to national forest land and with resource issues are addressed and resolved in a timely manner. Resolutions are consistent with area objectives and management direction.

6. Primary Funding Source - Q 6.

6. Primary funding source for future operational costs associated with the Project will be: 5

(Check the one most appropriate) (Please select one from list)

- ☒ Applicant's operational budget (5 points)
☐ Volunteer support and/or donations (3 points)
☐ Other Grant funding (2 points)
☐ OHV Trust Funds (No points)

If 'Operational budget' is checked, list reference document(s):

OHV Trust Funds acquired through this project will allow for the monitoring, maintenance and protection of existing restoration sites for up to three years. During that time, it is expected that the majority of these sites will achieve successful revegetation, at which point they can be added to the annual WHPP/HMP monitoring program, traditionally funded (primarily) through the forest's restoration program. Annual monitoring is supported by a significant volunteer contribution, however, forest restoration staff lead this program, and are primarily funded through the forest's operational budget.

The forest's WorkPlan system identifies the staff and materials used in annual monitoring.

7. Public Input - Q 7.

7. The Project was developed with public input employing the following 2

(Check all that apply) Scoring: 1 point each, up to a maximum of 2 points (Please select applicable values)

- ☐ Meeting(s) with the general public to discuss Project (1 point)
☒ Conference call(s) with interested parties (1 point)
☒ Meeting(s) with stakeholders (1 point)

Explain each statement that was checked

Forest staff met with stakeholders, the San Bernardino National Forest OHV Leadership Group, on January 23, 2009 to discuss the upcoming grant cycle and to receive input from the group about perceived issues and public opinion of projects.

Forest staff participated in conference calls and informal meetings with representatives from the Big Bear Green Thumbs and the SBNFA to discuss volunteer involvement in projects.

8. Utilization of Partnerships - Q 8.

8. The Project will utilize partnerships to successfully accomplish the Project. The number of partner organizations that will participate in the Project are 4

(Check the one most appropriate) (Please select one from list)

- ☒ 4 or more (4 points) ☐ 2 to 3 (2 points)
☐ 1 (1 point) ☐ None (No points)

List partner organization(s):

San Bernardino National Forest Association
Urban Youth Corps (Bobby Vega Foundation)
California State University, San Bernardino
Big Bear Green Thumbs
AmeriCorps
San Bernardino National Forest Children's Forest

9. Scientific and Cultural Studies - Q 9.

9. Scientific and cultural studies will

(Check all that apply) (Please select applicable values)

- ☐ Determine appropriate Restoration techniques (2 points)
- ☐ Examine potential effects of OHV Recreation on natural or cultural resources (2 points)
- ☐ Examine methods to ensure success of Restoration efforts (1 point)
- ☐ Lead to direct management action (1 point)

Explain each item checked above

10. Underlying Problem - Q 10.

10. The underlying problem that resulted in the need for the Restoration Project has been effectively addressed and resolved 3

(Check the one most appropriate) (Please select one from list)

- ☐ No (No points) ☒ Yes (3 points)

Explain 'Yes' answer

All of the areas to be protected by this project have been previously restored, and the unauthorized OHV routes responsible for the original damage have been eliminated. This project will provide for the continued maintenance and protection of these sites in order to prevent additional impacts and allow the restoration areas to revegetate to a natural state.

11. Size of sensitive habitats - Q 11.

11. Size of sensitive habitats (e.g., wilderness, riparian, wetlands, ACEC) within the Project Area which will be restored 5

(Check the one most appropriate) (Please select one from list)

- ☒ Greater than 10 acres (5 points)
☐ 1 – 10 acres (3 points)
☐ Less than 1 acre (1 points)
☐ No sensitive habitat within Project Area (No points)